

January 24, 1958

Dr. Aleck Bernstein  
Central Enteric Reference Laboratory  
Colindale Avenue  
London, N. W. 9, England

Dear Aleck:

From a number of inquiries received, I judge that you are acutely interested in finding a position in the United States. I am very sorry to have to infer that the situation in Britain, or at least your situation, has reached this conclusion; it was impossible to ignore a note of pessimism or disappointment in many quarters when we visited last year.

If I can help in any way, please let me know. I should think that your special training and talents, which are a scarce commodity over here, should find a proper niche before too long; I hope you are not going to be desperate and accept a position that is not just right for them. It might help a little if you could let me know something of such matters as your range of requirements, your visa situation, when you might be available and whether, for example, Helen proposes to continue working, full-time, half-time, or on what possible basis. Have you any thought of a temporary, tentative revisit before taking definite steps? Would you consider a position elsewhere than in the United States, for example Australia?

The academic "market" (from our point of view) is climbing steeply for a change, for obvious demographic reasons, and should peak in three or four years. I can hardly doubt that the same will be true in the U. K., but how the economic status will bear on this you know better than I do.

We had a diverting time in Australia, got back less than two months ago, but the routine has been so heavy since, that experience has become rather remote.

Do say hello to Clive and to Andy; with best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Medical Genetics

JL/ew